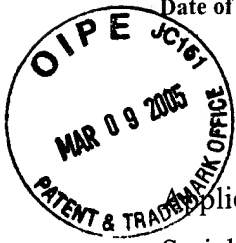


Express Mail Label No.: EV392158487US

Date of Deposit: March 9, 2005

PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No. 15966-577 (CURA-77)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shimkets et al.
Serial Number: 09/662,783 Examiner: Dong Jiang
Filing Date: September 12, 2000 Art Unit: 1646
For: GROWTH FACTOR POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC ACIDS
ENCODING SAME

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Boston, Massachusetts
March 9, 2005

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

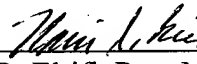
Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-identified application please find the following documents:

1. Response to September 9, 2004 Office Action (8 pgs);
2. Petition for Extension of Time (1 pg);
3. Check No. 20202 in the amount of \$510.00 to cover the Extension Fee;
4. Return Postcard

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-577. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 9, 2005


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3/11/05
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1646/1646/\$
PATENT APPLICATION
Attorney Docket No. 15966-577 (CURA-77) *erw*



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RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER 9th 2004 OFFICE ACTION

This filing is in response to the Office Action mailed September 9th 2004 (the "Office Action").
With the filing of an appropriate 3-month extension of time, this receipt of this response within the United States Patent and Trademark Office is due on or before March 9, 2005.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.